

In the Claims:

1 1. [Currently Amended] A method for acquiring remote high
2 resolution photographs by a user using a streaming video as a view-finder,
3 comprising:

4 connecting a remote device to one or more photo-video acquisition
5 devices individually comprising a camera, wherein the remote device is
6 controlled by the user;

7 using a connected one of the cameras, generating a video of a scene
8 viewed using the respective camera;

9 acquiring a high resolution photograph from the remote device using the
10 video streamed from the one or more photo-video acquisition devices as a view-
11 finder; and

12 processing and transmitting the video and the high resolution photograph
13 obtained from the one or more photo-video acquisition devices, ~~using a joint~~
14 ~~video and still image pipeline; and~~

15 ~~storing the video and the high resolution photograph for a first time after~~
16 ~~the generating and the transmitting.~~

1 2. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein the connecting step
2 includes connecting the remote device to the one or more photo-video
3 acquisition devices through a network.

1 3. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein the connecting step
2 includes connecting the remote device to the one or more photo-video
3 acquisition devices through a point-to-point connection.

1 4. [Original] The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 requesting payment information from a user who wishes to control the
3 one or more photo-video acquisition devices; and
4 enabling the user to control the one or more photo-video acquisition
5 devices from the remote device.

1 5. [Original] The method of claim 4, further comprising verifying the
2 payment information submitted by the user before enabling the user to control
3 the one or more photo-video acquisition devices.

1 6. [Original] The method of claim 4, wherein the acquiring step
2 includes using a queue system to allow multiple users to control the one or more
3 photo-video acquisition devices.

1 7. [Currently Amended] The method of claim 1, ~~wherein the storing~~
2 ~~comprises~~ further comprising storing the video and the high resolution
3 photograph in a storage on a network server.

1 8. [Original] The method of claim 1, further comprising sending the
2 video and the high resolution photograph to the user.

1 9. [Original] The method of claim 1, further comprising posting the
2 video and the high resolution photograph on a web page.

1 10. [Original] The method of claim 9, further comprising
2 requesting payment information from a user who wishes to download the
3 video and the high resolution photograph from the web page; and
4 enabling the user to download the video and the high resolution
5 photograph onto the remote device.

1 11. [Currently Amended] An apparatus for acquiring remote high
2 resolution photographs by a user using a streaming video as a view-finder,
3 comprising:

4 one or more photo-video acquisition devices capable of acquiring videos
5 and high resolution photographs, ~~wherein the videos and the high resolution~~
6 ~~photographs can be processed and transmitted using a joint video and still image~~
7 ~~pipeline;~~

8 a network linked to the one or more photo-video acquisition devices;

9 a remote device capable of logging onto the one or more photo-video
10 acquisition devices through the network and acquiring the high resolution
11 photographs, using videos streamed from the one or more photo-video
12 acquisition devices as a view-finder; and

13 ~~a server coupled with the network and configured to host a web page,~~
14 ~~wherein the server is configured to post the videos and high resolution~~
15 ~~photographs generated using data acquired by the one or more photo-video~~
16 ~~acquisition devices and to download the videos and high resolution photographs~~
17 ~~to the remote device responsive to a command received from the remote device;~~
18 ~~and~~

19 wherein the photo-video acquisition devices are remote video cameras.

1 12. [Original] The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the user can control
2 the one or more photo-video acquisition devices from the remote device through
3 the network or other communication channels.

1 13. [Original] The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the one or more
2 photo-video acquisition devices include a queue system that allows multiple
3 users to control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices.

1 14. [Original] The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the network includes
2 a storage on a network server to store the videos and the high resolution
3 photographs.

1 15. [Original] The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the videos and the
2 high resolution photographs are posted on a web page.

Claims 16-21 are canceled.

1 22. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 communicating a command from the user to the camera; and
3 altering an operation the camera with respect to the generation of the
4 video responsive to the command.

1 23. [Currently Amended] The method of claim 22, wherein the
2 communicating the command comprises communicating using a communications
3 channel different than ~~the joint video and still image~~ a pipeline configured to
4 communicate the video and high resolution photograph.

1 24. Canceled.

1 25. Canceled.

1 26. [Currently Amended] A method for acquiring remote high
2 resolution photographs by a user using a streaming video as a view-finder,
3 comprising:

4 connecting a remote device to one or more photo-video acquisition
5 devices individually comprising a camera, wherein the remote device is
6 controlled by the user;

7 using a connected one of the cameras, generating a video of a scene
8 viewed using the respective camera;

9 acquiring a high resolution photograph ~~from the remote device~~ using the
10 video streamed from the one or more photo-video acquisition devices as a view-
11 finder;

12 processing and transmitting the video and the high resolution photograph
13 obtained from the one or more photo-video acquisition devices, ~~using a joint~~
14 ~~video and still image pipeline;~~

15 communicating a command from the user to the camera; and

16 altering an operation the camera with respect to the generation of the
17 video responsive to the command; ~~and~~

18 ~~wherein the communicating the command comprises communicating~~
19 ~~using a communications channel different than the joint video and still image~~
20 ~~pipeline.~~

1 27. [New] The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the video
2 and the high resolution photograph for a first time after the generating and the
3 transmitting.

1 28. [New] The method of claim 1, wherein the acquiring comprises
2 acquiring during the generating the video comprising originally capturing the
3 video of the scene as viewed in real time using the respective camera.

1 29. [New] The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising a server
2 coupled with the network and configured to host a web page, wherein the
3 server is configured to post the videos and high resolution photographs
4 generated using data acquired by the one or more photo-video acquisition
5 devices and to download the videos and high resolution photographs to the
6 remote device responsive to a command received from the remote device.

1 30. [New] A method for a user to acquire remote high resolution
2 photographs using a streaming video as a view-finder, comprising:
3 logging onto one or more photo-video acquisition devices from a remote
4 device through a network;
5 generating video using one or more of the photo-video acquisition devices
6 comprising cameras;
7 acquiring a high resolution photograph using the video streamed from the
8 one or more photo-video acquisition devices as a view-finder; and
9 receiving the high resolution photograph from the network.

1 31. [New] The method of claim 30, further comprising:
2 selecting a photo-video acquisition device from the one or more photo-
3 video acquisition devices for acquiring the high resolution photograph;
4 submitting payment information to control the selected photo-video
5 acquisition device through the network; and
6 controlling the selected photo-video acquisition device from the remote
7 device through the network.

1 32. [New] The method of claim 30, further comprising:
2 storing the high resolution photograph in a local storage; and
3 printing the high resolution photograph on a printer at home.

1 33. [New] The method of claim 30, further comprising receiving the
2 video from the network at home.

1 34. [New] An image data communication method comprising:
2 providing a remotely located camera;
3 capturing live video data of a scene using the camera;
4 coupling a remote device with the camera using a network;
5 communicating captured live video data from the camera to the remote
6 device using the network, wherein the captured live video data has a first
7 resolution;
8 outputting a first command from the remote device;
9 altering the capturing of the live video data of the scene using the camera
10 responsive to the first command;
11 outputting a second command from the remote device;
12 providing still image data using the captured live video data responsive to
13 the second command, wherein the still image data has a second resolution
14 greater than the first resolution; and
15 communicating the still image data to the remote device.